

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US00/31538

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : G03F 7/11

US CL : 101/456; 430/273.1, 306

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 101/456, 467; 430/5, 271.1, 273.1, 302, 306, 309, 327, 328

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

WEST

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|--|-----------------------|
| Y | US 5,262,275 A (FAN) 16 November 1993 (16.11.1993), entire document. | 1-17 |
| Y | US 5,506,086 A (VAN ZOEREN) 09 April 1996 (09.04.1996), col. 14 lines 45-49. | 1-17 |
| Y | US 5,821,028 A (MAEJIMA et al.) 13 October 1998 (13.10.1998), col. 9 lines 27-28. | 7, 8 |
| Y | US 5,649,486 A (LEWIS) 22 July 1997 (22.07.1997), Abstract and col. 2 lines 8-22. | 10, 1610 |
| Y | US 5,925,500 A (YANG et al.) 20 July 1999, col. 5 line 20 - col. 6 line 13. | 17 |

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☐ See patent family annex.

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|---|--|
| * Special categories of cited documents: | "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention |
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| "O" Document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means | |
| "P" Document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed | |

Date of the actual completion of the international search

25 JANUARY 2001

Date of mailing of the international search report

14 MAR 2001

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Box PCT
Washington, D.C. 20231

Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230

Authorized officer

STEPHEN R. FUNK

Telephone No. (703) 308-0982



P.B.5818 - Patentlaan 2
2280 HV Rijswijk (ZH)
☎ +31 70 340 2040
TX 31651 epo nl
FAX +31 70 340 3016

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Zweigstelle
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Département à
La Haye
Division de la
recherche

Weber, Thomas, Dr. Dipl.-Chem.
Patentanwälte
von Kreisler-Selting-Werner,
Bahnhofsvorplatz 1 (Deichmannhaus)
50667 Köln
ALLEMAGNE

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| AvK | Sg | W | Da | Hi | HPJ | ME | TW | JH | KB |
| 06. MRZ 2003 | | | | | | | | | |
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Datum/Date
06.03.03

Zeichen/Ref./Réf.

022789ep/TW/sur

Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°/Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n°.

02023876.2-2208-

Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur/Patentinhaber/Propriétaire/Titulaire

Toyo Boseki Kabushiki Kaisha

COMMUNICATION

The European Patent Office herewith transmits as an enclosure the European search report for the above-mentioned European patent application.

If applicable, copies of the documents cited in the European search report are attached.

☒ Additional set(s) of copies of the documents cited in the European search report is (are) enclosed as well.

The following specifications given by the applicant have been approved by the Search Division:

☒ abstract

☒ title

☐ The abstract was modified by the Search Division and the definitive text is attached to this communication.

The following figure will be published together with the abstract:

NONE

REFUND OF THE SEARCH FEE

If applicable under Article 10 Rules relating to fees, a separate communication from the Receiving Section on the refund of the search fee will be sent later.





| DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| Category | Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages | Relevant to claim | CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7) |
| X | EP 1 146 392 A (AGFA GEVAERT NV) 17 October 2001 (2001-10-17) * paragraphs '0019!', '0024!'; claim 1; example 2 * | 1-3 | G03F1/00 B41C1/10 |
| X | US 6 245 486 B1 (TENG GARY GANGHUI) 12 June 2001 (2001-06-12) * column 5, line 1 - column 6, line 32; claims 1,10 * * column 5, line 14 - line 17 * | 1,2,4,5, 10,11,17 | |
| X | US 4 132 168 A (PETERSON JOHN O H) 2 January 1979 (1979-01-02) * column 2, line 14 - line 32; claims; example 1 * | 1-4 | |
| A | WO 01 63364 A (POLYFIBRON TECHNOLOGIES INC) 30 August 2001 (2001-08-30) * the whole document * | 1-15 | |
| | | | TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7) |
| | | | G03F B41C |
| The present search report has been drawn up for all claims | | | |
| Place of search THE HAGUE | | Date of completion of the search 12 February 2003 | Examiner Heywood, C |
| CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS | | | |
| X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document | | T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document | |

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 02 02 3876

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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12-02-2003

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| WO 0163364 A | 30-08-2001 | US 6367381 B1 | 09-04-2002 |
| | | AU 1770401 A | 03-09-2001 |
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